

Herbert Hoover Birthplace House  
(Jesse Hoover House; Herbert  
Hoover National Historic Site)  
Southwest corner of Penn and  
Downey Streets  
West Branch  
Cedar County  
Iowa

HABS No. IA-21

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PHOTOGRAPHS

REDUCED COPIES OF MEASURED DRAWINGS

WRITTEN HISTORICAL AND DESCRIPTIVE DATA

Historic American Buildings Survey  
National Park Service  
Department of the Interior  
Washington, D.C. 20240

ARCHITECTURAL DATA FORM

STATE Iowa	COUNTY Cedar	TOWN OR VICINITY West Branch
HISTORIC NAME OF STRUCTURE (INCLUDE SOURCE FOR NAME) Herbert Hoover Birthplace House		HABS NO. IA-21
SECONDARY OR COMMON NAMES OF STRUCTURE Jesse Hoover House; Herbert Hoover National Historic Site		
COMPLETE ADDRESS (DESCRIBE LOCATION FOR RURAL SITES) Southwest corner of Penn and Downey Streets		
DATE OF CONSTRUCTION (INCLUDE SOURCE) ca. 1871	ARCHITECT(S) (INCLUDE SOURCE)	
SIGNIFICANCE (ARCHITECTURAL AND HISTORICAL, INCLUDE ORIGINAL USE OF STRUCTURE) Birthplace of President Herbert Hoover. Architecturally, interesting as an example of vernacular construction.		
STYLE (IF APPROPRIATE) Vernacular		
MATERIAL OF CONSTRUCTION (INCLUDE STRUCTURAL SYSTEMS) Board-and-batten		
SHAPE AND DIMENSIONS OF STRUCTURE (SKETCHED FLOOR PLANS ON SEPARATE PAGES ARE ACCEPTABLE) 20'-4" (3-bay front) x 20'-10" including partly enclosed rear porch; gable roof; 1-bay, shed roof front porch		
EXTERIOR FEATURES OF NOTE		
INTERIOR FEATURES OF NOTE (DESCRIBE FLOOR PLANS, IF NOT SKETCHED) 2 rooms; vertical board walls		
MAJOR ALTERATIONS AND ADDITIONS WITH DATES Moved and attached to rear of 2-story house in 1885; returned to original location and restored in 1938 by McKay Construction Company; further restoration in 1962, William Wagner, architect.		
PRESENT CONDITION AND USE Maintained as a museum by the National Park Service		
OTHER INFORMATION AS APPROPRIATE		
SOURCES OF INFORMATION (INCLUDING LISTING ON NATIONAL REGISTER, STATE REGISTERS, ETC.) Shank, Wesley I. <u>The Iowa Catalog, Historic American Buildings Survey.</u> 1979.		
COMPILER, AFFILIATION Druscilla J. Null, HABS		DATE 9/2/83